

Remarks:

1. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (US# 6,745,624) in view of Matsubara et al. (US# 6,567,012).
 - a. Regarding Claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Porter et al. discloses "...the signal from the keys representing respective tire locations when the key fob is in a first mode...", when in actuality the "Calibrate Tire Sensor" button of Porter et al. does not represent a respective tire location or communicate a specific tire location but merely actuates the pressure sensor transmitter of the tire to which it is in the closest proximity (Col 3, line 53). Porter et al. therefore requires a separate method of communicating to the vehicle controller that a calibration routine is starting. (Col 4, lines 34-36), and then requires that all 4 of the tire positions be calibrated in a specific order (Col 4, lines 44-60). In the instant invention, because each of the dual purpose keys represents a specific tire position in the first mode, the sensor locations can be trained in any sequence, and if, for instance, a sensor module needs to be replaced, only that single location will need to be trained because the key fob transmitter actually tells the sensor module through the specific dual purpose key that it is being located in a specific location (i.e. right front) (page 7, lines 11-12 of instant application). This is a decided advantage over Porter et al, not requiring the technician to train the sensors in a specific sequence, and not requiring that all 4 of the sensors be trained every time any one needs to be trained.

- b. Regarding claims 2-8, as claims 2-8 depend from claim 1, for at least the same reasons listed in 1(a), applicant contends that these claims are in condition for allowance.
2. Claims 9 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Porter et al. (US #6,745,624).

 - a. Claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 10 and Claim 9 now includes the limitation of “the signals from the dual-purpose keys represent a respective tire location when the key fob is in a first mode, and the signals from at least some of the dual-purpose keys represent respective vehicle access commands when the key fob is in a second mode”. The same applicant arguments as are found in 1(a) above are now applicable to the amended Claim 9. Applicant contends this places claim 9 in condition for allowance.
 - b. Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitation of “the signals from the dual-purpose keys represent a respective tire location when the key fob is in a first mode, and the signals from at least some of the dual-purpose keys represent respective vehicle access commands when the key fob is in a second mode”. The same applicant arguments as are found in 1(a) above are now applicable to the amended Claim 16. Applicant contends this places Claim 16 in condition for allowance.
3. Claims 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter et al. as applied to claim 9 and in further view of Matsubara et al.

 - a. Claim 10 has been canceled

- b. Claims 11-15 depend from amended Claim 9. Therefore, for at least the reasons cited in 2(a) above, applicant contends that Claims 11-15 are in condition for allowance.
4. Claims 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter as applied to Claim 16 above, and further in view of Matsubara et al.

 - a. Claims 17-21 depend from amended claim 16, Therefore, for at least the reasons cited in 2(b) above, applicant contends that claims 17-21 are in condition for allowance.
5. A replacement sheet for sheet 1 of the drawings is attached.
6. Two paragraphs of the specification have been amended to correct typographical errors and make the drawing feature numbering consistent.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the instant application. Applicants believe that the application is now in condition for allowance and look forward to a timely Notice of Allowance.

Although no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0831 for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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